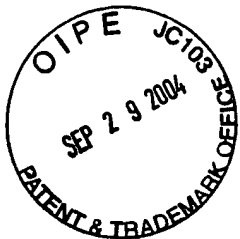


09-30-04

JFW  
3739



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 0320-0015 HOOV 115

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: )  
 )  
Michael D. Hooven )  
 )  
Serial No.: 10/015,346 )  
 )  
Filed: December 12, 2001 )  
 )  
Group Art No.: 3739 )  
 )  
Examiner: Rosiland S. Rollins )  
 )  
For: TRANSMURAL ABLATION DEVICE )  
WITH CURVED JAWS )

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	Filing Date	December 12, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
	Art Unit	3739
	Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Rollins
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	0320-0015 (HOOV 115)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings, and Mehler, Ltd. Renee Barthel, Registration No. 48,356
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Date	September 29, 2004

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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. (0320-0015) HOOV 115

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,346

Filed: December 12, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland S. Rollins

For: TRANSMURAL ABLATION DEVICE  
WITH CURVED JAWS

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NAME Kathleen Johnson

SIGNATURE Kathleen Johnson

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Commissioner for Patents  
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicant hereby calls the  
Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached form,  
which documents may be material to the examination of this  
application. Copies of the documents are enclosed herewith for the  
Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus or method  
disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the  
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is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of the document discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final action or an action that closes prosecution. The first reference cited was first called to Applicant's attention in an Office Action dated September 8, 2004 in related Application Number 10/328,057 filed on December 23, 2002. The second and third cited references were first called to Applicant's attention in an Office Action dated September 8, 2004 in related Application Number 10/015,868 filed on December 12, 2001. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), it is hereby stated: no item of this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the best knowledge of the person signing this certification after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any

individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement. Consequently, as provided in 37 C.F.R. § 197(c), a fee under § 1.17(p) is not required for the filing of this information disclosure. However, if it is determined that an additional fee is required, then authorization is hereby granted to charge Deposit Account 50-1039 any additional fee required. (A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.)

Date: September 29, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Renée C. Barthel, Esq.  
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/015,346
Filing Date	December 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Rollins
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0015 (HOOV 115)

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached

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